



Commission Action

December 4, 2014

PROJECT Building Expansion John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts 2700 F Street, NW Washington, DC	NCPC FILE NUMBER 7523
SUBMITTED BY John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER 31.10(64.00)43898
	APPLICANT'S REQUEST Preliminary approval of site and building plans
	ACTION TAKEN Approve with conditions and comments
	REVIEW AUTHORITY --Federal Project in the District

The Commission:

Approves the preliminary site and building plans for the expansion of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts that includes nearly 60,000 square feet of development contained mostly underground within two land-based pavilions, except for the River Pavilion that will be connected to the site via a pedestrian bridge over the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway.

Requests the Kennedy Center analyze the potential impacts of the River Pavilion on Potomac River boat traffic and submit the results the Commission prior to the next review stage.

Notes that the preliminary landscape plan has been further developed than the concept plan, as the design now includes: an entry court with deck, outdoor classrooms for impromptu instruction, two reflecting pools that will capture rainwater, a grove of ginkgo trees that will provide shade and screen from the vehicles and an outdoor area for simultaneous video projections of events at the Kennedy Center.

Notes that the Kennedy Center has provided adequate information documenting that this River Pavilion will be able to withstand impacts from ice floes and floating debris.

Notes that the pedestrian movement around the site needs to be further refined to understand how and why pedestrians will circulate around and through the site.

Reminds the Kennedy Center that Alternative C2, which includes a River Pavilion, will require a transfer of jurisdiction from the National Park Service and this transfer will need to be submitted to NCPC for approval.

As the Kennedy Center continues to refine the design, the Commission:

Recommends that the Kennedy Center explore further certain landscape elements such as art, interactive displays or some other element within the landscape to provide opportunities for site exploration by visitors.

Requests refinement of the pedestrian connection between the existing Kennedy Center and the new expansion to the south so that it is better integrated into the design, as well as between the Kennedy Center and east to encourage better connection to the rest of the city.

Requests that the Kennedy Center coordinate with NPS to provide greater detail about where bicycle parking will occur along the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway before the final design is submitted to NCPC for review.

Deborah B. Young

[Date]

Secretary to the National Capital Planning Commission